

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing, reexamination and reconsideration of the application identified in caption, as amended, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.111 and in light of the remarks which follow, are respectfully requested.

By the above amendments, claims 2, 8, 12, 18 and 20 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Each of claims 1 and 19 has been amended to incorporate the features of now canceled claims 2, 12 and 18 therein. Subject matter of now canceled claim 8 has also been incorporated into each of claims 1 and 19. Claim 3 has been amended to correct typographical errors by replacing "R₅₁" with "R₆₁" in the description of formula (Cp-3), by correcting the spelling of the word "arenesulfonyl" in the description of formulas (Cp-21) to (Cp-26), and by replacing "R₉₈" with "R₉₆" in the description of formula (Cp-27).

Claims 4, 5 and 14 have been amended for readability purposes by replacing the word "and" with "or." Claim 10 has been amended to depend from claim 1 in light of the cancellation of claim 8. Claim 15 has been amended for clarification purposes to recite the phrase "having a boiling point of 150°C or more." Support for this amendment can be found in the instant specification at least at page 59, lines 16-18.

Claim 16 has been amended for clarification to replace the phrase "10 to 100 parts" with "10 to 1000 parts." Support for this amendment can be found in the specification at least at page 54, lines 13 and 14. New claim 21 has been added which is directed to an additional aspect of the present invention. Support for new claim 21 can be found in the specification at least at page 52, lines 3-9.

In the Official Action at page 2, claim 3 stands objected to for containing text which is unclear. In response to this objection, set forth above is the amended text of claim 3 which contains legible subscripts of constituents of the formulas recited therein. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 4, 5, 12, 14 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for the reasons set forth at pages 2 and 3 of the Official Action. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

Claims 4, 5 and 14 have been rejected for reciting improper Markush group language. As discussed above, claims 4, 5 and 14 have been amended by replacing "and" with "or," in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions.

The rejection of claim 12 is moot in light of the cancellation of such claim. As discussed above, claims 1 and 19 have been amended to incorporate the features of claim 12. In place of the objected-to phrase "a contained amount of the ionic group is" recited in now canceled claim 12, claims 1 and 19 have been amended for readability purposes to recite the phrase "the ionic group is present in an amount."

Claim 15 has been rejected for reciting the phrase "high boiling point organic solvent." Without addressing the propriety of this rejection, and in an effort to expedite prosecution, claim 15 has been amended to recite that the hydrophobic high boiling point organic solvent has a boiling point of 150°C or more.

In view of the foregoing, it is apparent that the claims comply with the provisions set forth in the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 5-7, 9-11, 13, 15, 16 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,631,309 (*Yanagi et al*) taken in view of the evidence in U.S. Patent No. 6,204,307 (*Miyabayashi et al*). This rejection has been obviated by the above amendments in which each of claims 1 and 19 has been amended to incorporate the features of claims 2, 12 and 18 therein. Claims 2, 12 and 18 have not been rejected in the present §102(b) rejection. For at least this reason, withdrawal of the present rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 5-11, 13-15, 18 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,302,654 (*Ishii et al*) taken in view of the evidence in *Miyabayashi et al*. This rejection has been obviated by the above amendments in which each of claims 1 and 19 has been amended to incorporate the features of claims 2 and 12 therein. In this regard, claims 2 and 12 have not been rejected in the present §102(b) rejection. Accordingly, for at least this reason, withdrawal of the present rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-4 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Yanagi et al* or *Ishii et al* either of which in view of either Japanese Patent Document No. 03-231975 (JP '975) or U.S. Patent No. 5,508,421 (*Suzuki et al*). Also, claims 2-4 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Yanagi et al* or *Ishii et al* either of which in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,344,933 (*Mikoshiba et al*). The above rejections have been obviated by the above-described amendments of claims 1 and 19 which incorporate the features of claim 12 therein. Claim 12 has not been rejected in the above §103(a) rejections. For at least this reason, withdrawal of the present rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Yanagi et al* or *Ishii et al* either of which in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,384,108 (*Breton et al*). The rejection

based on the combination of *Yanagi et al* and *Breton et al* has been obviated by the above amendments of claims 1 and 19 which incorporate the features of claims 2 and 18 therein. Claims 2 and 18 have not been rejected in the present §103(a) rejection.

With regard to the rejection based on the combination of *Ishii et al* and *Breton et al*, such rejection has been obviated by the above amendments which incorporate the features of claim 2 in claims 1 and 19. Claim 2 has not been rejected in the present §103(a) rejection. Accordingly, for at least the above reasons, withdrawal of the above rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 16 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Ishii et al* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,406,526 (*Meyrick et al*). This rejection has been obviated by the above amendments in which each of claims 1 and 19 has been amended to incorporate the features of claims 2 and 12 therein. In this regard, claims 2 and 12 have not been rejected in the present §103(a) rejection based on *Ishii et al* and *Meyrick et al*. As such, for at least this reason, withdrawal of the this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Yanagi et al* or *Ishii et al*. This rejection has been obviated by the above amendments in which each of claims 1 and 19 has been amended to incorporate the features of claims 2 and 12 therein. Claims 2 and 12 have not been rejected in the present §103(a) rejection. Accordingly, for at least this reason, withdrawal of the present rejection is respectfully requested.

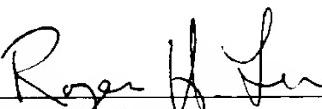
From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order, and such action is earnestly solicited.

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If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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